

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A biocompatible degradable composite material, comprising: ~~characterized in that it consists of~~

a degradable biocompatible phosphocalcium and/or calcium sulfate matrix,

said matrix containing magnetic particles, wherein the magnetic particles have a particle size between 0.001 μm to 10 μm,

said material being found as a slurry during its introduction into an [[the]] organism, as a solid subsequently, and said matrix being resorbed within a period of eight a few days to a few weeks.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The material according to claim 1, wherein the material characterized in that it further comprises: consists of

a degradable biocompatible polymer matrix comprising a polymer selected from collagen, polylactic and glycolic acids, polydioxanone, polyfumarate, polyanhydrides, polyorthoesters, polyurethanes, polyphosphazenes, polycaprolactone, polyhydroxybutyrate, polyhydroxy-valerate, polyvalerolactone, polytartronic and polymalic acid;

wherein the polymer matrix includes the containing magnetic particles.

6. (Currently Amended) The material according to claim 1, wherein characterized in that said matrix has biocompatibility and degradation characteristics compatible with applications of the material for treating bone tumors.

7. (Currently Amended) The material according to claim 1, wherein characterized in that the magnetic particles contain iron a metal, notably iron, preferably as ferrites: magnetite or maghemite or any other ferro-, ferri-magnetic, meta- or anti-ferromagnetic inorganic material.
8. (Currently Amended) The material according to claim 1, wherein characterized in that said particles consist of an organomineral composite containing an iron, ferrite core, or core of any other magnetic compound coated with polymer as a thin layer or as polymeric chains having a free end.
9. (Currently Amended) The material according to claim 1, wherein characterized in that said magnetic particles are selected from a group consisting of vectors either of a molecule used in chemotherapy and vectors of [[or]] an isotope.
10. (Currently Amended) The material according to claim 1, wherein characterized in that said particles have a particle size between 0.001 and 0.1 μm .
11. (Currently Amended) The material according to claim 1, wherein characterized in that said particles have a particle size between 0.1 and 10 μm .
12. (Currently Amended) The material according to claim 1, wherein the matrix is capable of forming a mineral matrix releasing the magnetic particles according to kinetics compatible with [[their]] internalization of the magnetic particles by cells of [[from]] neighboring tissues.
13. (Currently Amended) The material according to claim 1, wherein the magnetic characterized in that it comprises particles are coated with a calcium phosphate layer containing a fluorescent element such as europium.
14. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a material according to claim 1, comprising mixing of a magnetic particle powder with a calcium sulfate or phosphate mineral powder, in an aqueous solution until a slurry is formed, and hardening said slurry for a few minutes to a few hours.

15. (Withdrawn) The method for preparing a material according to claim 10, further comprising a step for preparing said particles by hydrothermal synthesis in a reactor by injecting a FeCl₂ solution, adding deaerated water containing NaOH, the mixture being placed under nitrogen flow and brought to a temperature between 50°C and 100°C, replacing nitrogen with compressed air until ferrites are obtained.
16. (Withdrawn) A method for diagnosing bone cancers comprising administering to a subject the material of claim 1 as a tracer for MRI-detectable tumor cells and tracking migrating tumor cells that take up the tracer in order to be able to treat sites at infraclinic stages.
17. (Withdrawn) A method for tracing tumor cells in a subject having ingested the material of claim 1 after desalting from said degradable and biocompatible material by means of MRI, electronic microscopy, confocal microscopy, or fluorescence microscopy.
18. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 16 wherein the treatment is for treating bone tumors.
19. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 18 wherein the treatment is for targeted thermolysis of cancer cells.
20. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 19, characterized in that the magnetic particles once inside the cells are intended to be heated in a magnetic field which may be produced by a nuclear magnetic resonance imaging apparatus or any other generator.
21. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 17, wherein the treatment is combined with radiotherapy and/or chemotherapy.
22. (New) The material according to claim 1, wherein the matrix is resorbed within a period of a few days to four weeks.

23. (New) The material according to claim 1, wherein the magnetic particles have a particle size between 0.05 μm to 0.1 μm .

24. (New) The material according to claim 1, wherein magnetic particles contain a ferrite.

25. (New) The material according to claim 24, wherein the ferrite is magnetite, maghemite, or a ferro-, ferri-magnetic, meta- or anti-ferromagnetic inorganic material.

26. (New) The material according to claim 13, wherein the fluorescent element is europium.